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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/608,387	06/30/2003	Haruhiro Yuki	2003_0870A	7963

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WASHINGTON, DC 20006-1021

EXAMINER

ROY, SIKHA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2879

DATE MAILED: 02/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/608,387

Applicant(s)

YUKI ET AL.

Examiner

Sikha Roy

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 December 2003.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 June 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1203.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

The Preliminary Amendment, filed on December 10, 2003 has been entered and is acknowledged by the Examiner.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to because in Figs. 2, 3, 5 and 8 the discharge gap between the electrodes is labeled in Japanese. The labeling of the Figures in the Drawing should be in English.

Figure 8 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g).

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner,

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the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 2000123746 to Kato et al.

Referring to claim 1 Kato discloses (Figs. 1 and 12 abstract) a plasma display panel comprising a plurality of pairs of display electrodes 41,42, a pair of the plurality of pairs of display electrodes which are disposed parallel to each other on the front substrate 10 and form a discharge gap for emitting light for display, a dielectric layer 11 formed on the front substrate 10 and covers the pairs of display electrodes excluding at least a part of the discharge gap and data electrodes disposed on the rear substrate 20

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facing the front substrate across the discharge space in a manner to cross under the display electrodes.

Regarding claim 2 it is clearly evident from Figs. 6 and 7 that the thickness of the dielectric layer 11 in a direction where the pair of display electrodes 41,42 face each other is not larger than that in a direction where the pair of display electrodes face the rear substrate.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 2000285811 A to Uemura et al.

Regarding claim 1 Uemura discloses (Figs. 1, 2 abstract) a plasma display panel comprising a plurality of pairs of display electrodes 22,23, a pair of the plurality of pairs of display electrodes which are disposed parallel to each other on the front substrate 21 and form a discharge gap for emitting light for display, a dielectric layer 26 formed on the front substrate and covers the pairs of display electrodes excluding at least a part of the discharge gap (recess 36) and data electrodes 29 disposed on the rear substrate 30 facing the front substrate across the discharge space in a manner to cross under the display electrodes.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

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invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 2000123746 to Kato et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of JP 2001006562 to Kasahara et al.

Claim 3 differs from Kato et al. in that Kato et al. does not exemplify a float electrode at the discharge gap formed on the front substrate.

Kasahara in analogous art of gas discharge display panel discloses (Fig. 1 , abstract) a float electrode 17 (of a floating potential) formed in the discharge gap in the middle area of the display electrodes 8,9 formed on the front substrate. Kasahara further discloses this configuration of the float electrode provides the plasma display panel of high quality with high efficiency at reasonable prices by improving light emitting efficiency keeping the start and maintaining the discharge voltages low.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the float electrode disposed at the discharge gap of the display of Kato as taught by Kasahara for providing the plasma display panel of high quality with high efficiency at reasonable prices by improving light emitting efficiency keeping the start and maintaining the discharge voltages low.

Referring to claims 4 and 5 Kasahara discloses (Fig. 1) the floating electrode 17 is transparent and formed of at least one narrow line.

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Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. U.S. Patent 6,670,757 to Kato et al. discloses plasma display panel having a portion of the dielectric surface opened directly to a discharge space. U.S. Patent 6,376,995 to Kato et al., KR 2001004231 and KR 2003037219 disclose plasma display panel having float electrode for improving discharge efficiency and brightness.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sikha Roy whose telephone number is (571) 272-2463. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

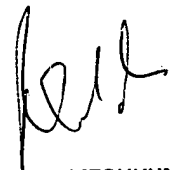
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimeshkumar D. Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization is (703) 308-7382.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

S.R.

Sikha Roy
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2879



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